

WHAT DOES TRANSITION MEAN?

- ❖ **Different school environment**
- ❖ **Higher maturity**
- ❖ **More freedom**
- ❖ **More responsibility**
- ❖ **New people**
- ❖ **More clubs, extra curriculum, more choices**
- ❖ **More rigorous courses (higher education)**
- ❖ **Move to higher grade level**
- ❖ **Move from oldest to youngest**
- ❖ **Different schedule**
- ❖ **Emotional/physical change**

THE HARDEST PART OF TRANSITIONING IS.....

- **Not knowing how to study/do homework/be responsible**
- **Academies...you transition from 8th to 9th and then have to transition again**
- **Need upperclassman friends...could accomplish that in clubs/extracurricular activities**
- **Grades 7-12 in same building/no help with transition**
- **Finding my way**

I WISHED MY SCHOOL WOULD...

- Be harder/teachers would expect more**
- Communicate more with my parents and me about grades and classes**
- Tell me in middle school about AP classes, weighted classes, dual credit, etc.**
- In K-8 school give the middle schoolers more responsibility**
- “Group” me with kids like me so I could learn more, move on and not have to deal with low expectations**
- Give me a “hands-on” tour of the high school**
- Let me get to know high school teachers before school starts**
- Let me shadow high schoolers**

- **Make middle school more like high school/teachers should have less control**
- **After CATS test is wasted time, make it high school ready time**
- **Make the high school more welcoming/look more cozy**
- **Give assessments in middle school to help me decide which classes I should take**
- **High school teachers come to middle school and talk**
- **Give me map and schedule before school starts**
- **Form joint clubs with middle/high school students and have meetings over the summer to help transition.**
- **Let Beta Club mentor students**
- **Middle school curriculum “stepped up” at end of year to prepare**

- **High school preparatory classes mandatory**
- **High school teachers start out easy and work up harder**
- **Invite middle schoolers to high school sporting events**
- **Fashion show for middle schoolers put on by high school students to show dress code**
- **Looping-knew me and helped me transition easier**

THIS WORKED FOR ME:

- **Freshman academy-only 2 hallways for freshman**
- **ACE class for freshman/allows freshman to meet with upperclassmen**
- **Tates Creek 101 is a class on how to survive high school**
- **Being involved in high school sports as a middle schooler**
- **FAME-students at Dixie Heights had a mentor at the high school who helped them transition**

- **Orientation Day-kids met with mentors (5-6 kids per mentor). The high schoolers called them over summer and introduced themselves and invited them to Orientation Day.**
- **High schoolers go to middle school to talk to kids**
- **Pep Rally and orientation during summer led by high school students**
- **Clubs/Band had camp in summer which allowed middle schoolers to bond with high schoolers**
- **Freshman retreat during summer**